



TAUNTON

Bristol County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Taunton is a city of rich diversity and is divided into five primary neighborhoods; Weir, Whittenton, Oakland, Westville and East Taunton. Each neighborhood has its own corner stores, churches, neighborhood associations, parks and playgrounds. Regardless of where one lives in this city of nearly 50,000, it seems a small town, friendly and personable. There is something for everyone in Taunton. On a sunny, peaceful afternoon, it is common to see members of the community fishing, boating, hiking or sunbathing at one of Taunton's various recreational spots, including Massasoit State Park, Watson State Park, Boyden Park, Sabbatia Lake or the Taunton River. Downtown Taunton is an active shopping district as well as being a pleasant scenic area. Another alternative is that of the Silver City Galleria, a 160 store mega-mall located in East Taunton. Residents feel the diversity offered by Taunton makes the city an interesting and exciting place to live and visit.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Rehoboth and Norton on the west, Easton on the north, Raynham and Lakeville on the east, and Berkley and Dighton on the south. Taunton is 14 miles north of Fall River; 33 miles south of Boston; 16 miles from Providence, Rhode Island; and 193 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 47.97 sq. miles

Land Area: 46.62 sq. miles

Population: 49,832

Density: 1,069 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Taunton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.7"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Taunton, Norton, Assonet, Assawompset Pond, Bridgewater, Somerset

Regional Planning Agency

Southeastern Regional Planning and
Economic Development District

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 821-1000

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Mayor-Council

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1639

As a city: 1864

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	24,759		
Democrats	10,337	41.8	%
Republicans	2,432	9.8	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	11,988	48.4	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Taunton city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	55,976	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	55,976	100.0
Male.....	26,904	48.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	2,198	3.9
Female.....	29,072	51.9	Mexican.....	86	0.2
Under 5 years.....	3,977	7.1	Puerto Rican.....	1,518	2.7
5 to 9 years.....	4,079	7.3	Cuban.....	30	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	3,760	6.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	564	1.0
15 to 19 years.....	3,345	6.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	53,778	96.1
20 to 24 years.....	3,290	5.8	White alone.....	50,272	89.8
25 to 34 years.....	8,894	15.9	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	9,698	17.3	Total population.....	55,976	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	7,096	12.7	In households.....	55,156	98.5
55 to 59 years.....	2,611	4.7	Householder.....	22,045	39.4
60 to 64 years.....	2,069	3.7	Spouse.....	10,583	18.9
65 to 74 years.....	3,540	6.3	Child.....	17,101	30.6
75 to 84 years.....	2,764	4.9	Own child under 18 years.....	12,679	22.7
85 years and over.....	913	1.6	Other relatives.....	2,601	4.6
Median age (years).....	35.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	927	1.7
18 years and over.....	42,067	75.1	Nonrelatives.....	2,826	5.0
Male.....	19,823	35.4	Unmarried partner.....	1,470	2.6
Female.....	22,234	39.7	In group quarters.....	820	1.5
21 years and over.....	40,195	71.8	Institutionalized population.....	592	1.1
62 years and over.....	8,404	15.0	Noninstitutionalized population.....	228	0.4
65 years and over.....	7,217	12.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	2,837	5.1	Total households.....	22,045	100.0
Female.....	4,380	7.8	Family households (families).....	14,476	65.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	7,114	32.3
One race.....	54,741	97.8	Married-couple family.....	10,583	48.0
White.....	51,315	91.7	With own children under 18 years.....	4,877	22.1
Black or African American.....	1,534	2.7	Female householder, no husband present.....	2,952	13.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	92	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	1,744	7.9
Asian.....	334	0.6	Nonfamily households.....	7,569	34.3
Asian Indian.....	63	0.1	Householder living alone.....	6,208	28.2
Chinese.....	69	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	2,180	9.9
Filipino.....	53	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	7,736	35.1
Japanese.....	10	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	5,168	23.4
Korean.....	34	0.1	Average household size.....	2.50	(X)
Vietnamese.....	34	0.1	Average family size.....	3.09	(X)
Other Asian ¹	71	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	18	-	Total housing units.....	22,908	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	5	-	Occupied housing units.....	22,045	96.2
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	4	-	Vacant housing units.....	863	3.8
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	9	-	occasional use.....	34	0.1
Some other race.....	1,448	2.6	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.6	(X)
Two or more races.....	1,235	2.2	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.7	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	22,045	100.0
White.....	52,289	93.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	13,495	61.2
Black or African American.....	1,965	3.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	8,550	38.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	301	0.5	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.73	(X)
Asian.....	487	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.14	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	84	0.2			
Some other race.....	2,155	3.8			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 448

Conventional Federal: 326

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 48

Federal (Section 8): 369



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The Taunton-Attleboro region has excellent highway facilities. Interstate 495, especially well designed south of Boston, provides access to Interstate 90 to the northwest and to U.S. Route 6, the Mid-Cape Highway, to the southeast. Interstate 95 and State Route 24 provide access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are Interstate Route 495, the outer loop around Boston; U.S. Route 44; and State Routes 24 and 138, both running N-S between the Boston area and Fall River.

Rail

The Bay Colony Railroad and Conrail provide freight rail service and interchange traffic in Taunton. Contact number for the Bay Colony: (617) 380-3556; for Conrail: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Taunton is a member of the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority which provides fixed route service within Taunton and between Taunton and Attleboro, and also Dial-A-Ride service to the elderly and disabled. Bloom's Bus Lines offers frequent commuter service between Boston and Taunton. Bus service also available to Fall River, New Bedford and Providence.

Other

The Taunton Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is located 3 miles E of the city. It has a 3,496'x 75' asphalt runway and a 2,350'x 150' gravel runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Old Colony Historical Society
66 Church Green
(508) 822-1622

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Morton Hospital & Medical Center
New Bedford Area Facility
Taunton State Hospital

Long Term Care

Longmeadow of Taunton
Marian Manor Of Taunton
Taunton Nursing Home
Wedgemere Convalescent Home

Hospices

Hospice Care of Greater Taunton

Rest Homes

Hartshorn House Retirement Home

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.